

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY.

For 1878.

Now Ready.

This work, now in the ELEVENTH year of its existence, is ready for delivery.

It has been compiled and printed at the Daily Press Office, as usual, from the most authentic sources, and no pains have been spared to make the work complete in all respects.

In addition to the usual value of the voluminous information, for 1878, "CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY" has been further augmented.

CHROMO LITHOGRAPH.

FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF SHANGHAI.

on a Chromo-Lithograph Plate in color.

NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE AT THE PEAK.

also of

THE VARIOUS HOUSE FLAGS.

(Designed expressly for this Work)

and of the

THE COAST OF CHINA.

besides other local information and statistics corrected to date of publication, tending to make this work in every way available for Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

The Directory is published in Two Forms, Complete at \$5; or with the Lists of Residents, Port Directories, Maps, &c., at \$8.

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JULY 2ND, 1878.

A persistent writer in the Daily Press, from time to time informs the home public that the Chinese would make formidable soldiers if properly officered. This statement has appeared in various forms in the above-named journal, as to lead to a supposition that the writer, whoever he may be, is very much interested in impressing this view upon the home public. No doubt it would seem to be a good patriotic tendency to desire to see the Chinese towards the strength of the opposition which would have to be encountered; but the statements which are from time to time put forth at home on this subject, are gross exaggerations upon the facts.

That the Chinese have of late years paid great attention to the improvement of their naval and military forces, there is no doubt. The description of the war junk, which was given in yesterday's paper, would be a certain indication of the progress which has been made, and it is also in some degree an indication of the direction in which it has been mainly looked for, and of the point at which it is likely to prove of most use less force than might at first be supposed the case. The best guns and rifles were introduced on board the junk; it was repaired with the best work; and made in the most approved style; but still it was the junk, and would not doubt in an engagement proceed in the old-fashioned way in which junks have entered into action from the earliest days. Even in the case of European built gunboats, there would always be a tendency among the Chinese to return to the old traditions, and this would be more so in military matters than in naval. The soldiers in Chinese service have of late years been supplied with far better weapons than they had formerly, and to this extent they would not doubt be more formidable antagonists than they were in former days; but in respect to the main body of the Chinese towards making a good army, but little progress has really been made. The chief thing that the Chinese want is discipline; and in this they are but little in advance of what they were ten or fifteen years ago. Only a very limited number have been drilled, and drill even is a different thing to discipline, and although an indispensable concomitant of it, will never supply its place.

In real discipline the Chinese have always proved greatly deficient, and notwithstanding what has been done by foreigners in their employ to teach them, there does not appear to be evidence that they have greatly advanced in this respect. There have been armies among the "disciplined troops" at the camp near Shanghai; and latterly that camp has been entirely abolished. The small extent to which the improvements as regards their army have assisted the Chinese, is well illustrated by the difficulty which they had in putting down the rebellion in Yunnan—which was, it is stated, at last only effected by strategy. The army may be better supplied with arms, but it is all that China has yet learnt of war from foreign nations. She has yet learnt of war, but has not learnt how to use them; and even doubtful whether, if we broke out, the Chinese would not themselves find reason for the very improvements they have received, as they would not have sufficient confidence in the officers to leave them to control over so much force as would be required by the commanders of a disciplined army in China.

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POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

July 1st.

BEFORE THE HON. C. JAY.

A Chinese gardener named Lee-A-Long, employed by Government, charged a married woman named Lam-Lo, with allowing her husband to be a vagrant, and to be a nuisance, through the bamboo fencing and gates, and the young bamboo and other young plants.

Defendant said her husband was under the care of her young daughter, a carriage driver, and that she had been in the garden, but did no damage.

Fixed \$1.

THE SAILORS' HOME.

European consular No. 77, charged a sailor named Martin Connolly, with being drunk, and going into the shipping-office and making use of most disgusting language towards the shipping master, and the captain of the ship.

Defendant said he was drunk, and did not know what he was doing. He said that if he had been sober, he would not have done it.

Mr. May told defendant that if he drank caused him to make use of such disgusting language, he had better be sober, and if he was sober, he would not have done it.

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